

## **BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)**

Policy Committee Minutes - April 21, 2010

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### **Call To Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 1:39 p.m.

Those present were: Dave Engelhardt, BCATS staff; Dale Majerczyk, City of Essexville; John Gaydos, City of Bay City; Jim Lillo, Bay County Road Commission; Vaughn Begick, Bay County; Dave Geiger, MDOT; Brandon Wilcox, MDOT; Mike Niederquell, Wade Trim; Dirk Westbury, BCATS staff, and; Cyndi Gaul, EA&CD.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

It was moved by Gaydos, seconded by Begick, to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2010 meeting. Motion Passed.

### **Public Comment:**

There was no public comment brought before the committee.

### **Update From Bay Metro Transit:**

Stoner was not present. Engelhardt gave a brief update regarding the Pre-UWP Meeting he attended with Stoner. Engelhardt discussed the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) study being conducted by the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission and the Flint MTA to determine if having a Bus Rapid Transit route between Bay City and Detroit would be beneficial. Stoner is working to coordinate a Park & Ride Program with Delta College, SVSU and Meijer's.

### **Federal Highway Bill Update:**

Engelhardt said that the Transportation Bill has been extended through December 31, 2010. STP funds have not yet been released.

### **Public Hearing - TIP Amendments:**

The Public Hearing was called to order at 1:44 p.m. by Dale Majerczyk, Chairman of BCATS. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to discuss the various MDOT, City of Bay City Bridge Projects, and Bay County Road Commission Project. Engelhardt discussed the handout of various FY2008-11 TIP Amendments which included the MDOT Rail GPA, Borton Avenue Bid Savings, Wilder Rd/Truman Parkway Joint Project, Liberty and Independence Bridges projects.

The MDOT Rail GPA project needed to include the Wilder Road Crossing, which increased the cost for this project which needs to be reflected in the TIP. The bridge projects are listed in 2011 and may need to be moved to 2012. Wilcox will verify if the project should be in 2011 or 2012.

The Borton Avenue Project had a bid savings of approx \$79,000 and once the money is freed up, the funds available from this project need to be re-programmed. Engelhardt suggested, based on previous discussions with the implementing agencies, that the ARRA funds from the Borton Avenue Project bid savings be put toward the Road Commission's Bay Arenac Project.

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The bid savings from the Wilder Rd/Truman Parkway Joint of \$330,000, freeing up approximately \$168,000 for STUL funds from FY 2010 originally programmed for the city's portion of the project needs to be reprogrammed. Engelhardt received confirmation that a portion of this could go to the road commissions portion of the same project, approximately \$72,000. Engelhardt would like the remaining STUL funds of approximately \$96,000 to go towards any Chip and Seal projects that the road commission can put together through a force account of projects under \$100,000. As the actual totals will not be available until the bid is awarded and inputted into MDOT's system the specific project, or projects will be identified by the Road Commission when the actual dollar amounts are known.

The Public Hearing on the various TIP Amendments to the BCATS was adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

The regular BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was reconvened at 2:08 p.m.

### **TIP Amendment Approval:**

A motion was made by Gaydos, seconded by Lillo, to approve the various FY2008-11 TIP Amendments as listed and that the funds left over from the Borton Avenue Project be re-allocated for the Bay Arenac Project; the addition of funds to the Rail GPA, and the reprogramming of the STUL bid savings from the Wilder/Truman/Woodside Joint Project to transfer to the road commissions portion. As there is additional STUL funds that can be reallocated after the above transfer, those funds to be made available to the Road Commission for force account projects, or another road project that will be identified by the Road Commission. This motion also grants Dave Engelhardt special administrative modification authority to make changes on the BCATS 2008-11 TIP for the reprogramming of the funds made available from the bid savings of the Borton Project and Wilder Rd/Truman Parkway Joint Projects as long as he is given e-mail approval by the corresponding implementing agencies of the Bay County Road Commission, City of Bay City and City of Essexville. Motion passed. \_\_\_\_\_

### **BCATS 2011-14 TIP Local Project Recommendations:**

Engelhardt provided a map handout to members and discussed the list of local and MDOT projects of the 2011-2014 TIP, including the MDOT Illustrative list of projects, and requested approval to send out for the required 30 day public review. Engelhardt would like to see both lists available for the public review period. The Illustrative Lists will show the public what projects BCATS would like to see done should the funding become available. The Project List shows the actual projects that are scheduled for the TIP.

A motion was made by Lillo, seconded by Begick, to approve the BCATS 2011-14 TIP Local Project Recommendations, the MDOT Projects, and the MDOT Illustrative List of Projects for Public Review. Motion Passed.

### **Travel Demand Model:**

Engelhardt provided members with two table handouts and a map which listed the population and employment data for the Travel Demand Model. Engelhardt is looking to get approval of

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the data presented.

A motion was made by Geiger, seconded by Gaydos, to approve the Travel Demand Model Data presented. Motion Passed.

### **Non-Motorized & Trail Events:**

Westbury provided a brief update of the BCATS Non-Motorized Plan and discussed some upcoming events. One event is the May 11<sup>th</sup> Training Wheels: On Road Bicycle Facilities Design Course being hosted by the Bay County Transportation Planning Division and taking place in Bay City, Michigan. The May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting will focus on ways to design roads for bikes. The other event is the May 4<sup>th</sup> Non-Motorized Summit taking place in Flint, Michigan. Engelhardt provided everyone with a flyer for the May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. There is also a Rail Trail Clean Up date scheduled for Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **Project Updates:**

The **Truman Parkway/Wilder Road Project** pre-construct meeting has been held and the project should begin the end of May. It is scheduled to be completed by August 13, 2010. The **Johnson Street Project** has a complete set of plans and the Mayor for the City of Bay City is attempting to get additional funding under a federal earmark. The **Lincoln Street Project** plans are almost completed. The city is budgeting to have **Trumbull St Project** designed next year so that project can be ready when funds are available. The **Salzburg Street Project** will include reconstruction of one block of Wenona Ave north of Salzburg to Ivy St. This portion of the project will be funded by the City, not MDOT. The project is part of the Illustrative list in the 2011-2014 TIP. The Safe Routes to Schools Project will begin in June, 2010. The **Seven Mile Road Project** from Hotchkiss Road to Carter Road will have a pre-construct meeting on Monday, April 26, 2010. The **Bay Arenac Project** is ready to begin once funding is available. The **Borton Avenue Project** has been waiting for the pre-construct meeting. This project is scheduled to begin in mid-June, 2010. A portion of the road will be closed during this project and there will be a detour through residential areas.

### **Other/New Business:**

#### ***Garfield Road Interchange Project/Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Project:***

The Garfield Road Interchange Project which may be funded with an Earmark is rumored to have hit a serious snag in funding. Begick mentioned that this project was discussed during the recent State of the County meeting. It is anticipated that this project will continue to move forward.

#### ***Fabiano Brothers Grand Opening:***

There will be a Grand Opening for Fabiano Brothers Distribution Center in Monitor Township at the end of May, 2010. There will be a professional open house by invitation only, then a public open house. Lillo said that it's a great building and worth seeing.

#### ***Pre-Unified Work Program (UWP) Meeting:***

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Engelhardt attended a Pre-UWP Meeting on April 16, 2010. He tried to get a solid answer regarding the use of Flexible Match and Soft Match for transportation projects. As of this year BCATS can only take advantage of the wage portion because FHWA is cutting back on what they are going to allow as eligible billing. Engelhardt proposed that BCATS implement a membership fee based on lane miles of federal aid eligible roads for each agencies. The membership fee would be considered revenue by the State and can be kept in a separate account that would be used to pay back the implementing agencies for work conducted throughout the year. The fees for Bay City and the Road Commission are similar to the total of flexible match used in FY 2009 for both agencies. A small portion would be covered by Essexville, which in the past, has not provided an flexible match as it was not needed before.

As there was no further business, the April 21, 2010 BCATS Policy Committee meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Engelhardt  
BCATS Director

*Transcribed by C. Gaul*

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